

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE
AMITE RIVER BASIN DRAINAGE & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Location: 3535 S. Sherwood Forest Blvd., Suite 135, Baton Rouge, LA 70816

July 20, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT DURING ROLL CALL: Edwin Parker, David Hoover, Lionel Bailey, Ben Babin, Jack Harris, James Little, Angela Machen, Richard St. Pierre, Larry Thomas, Don Thompson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Felicia Lee, Kenneth Welborn

Vacant: St. Helena Parish

ALSO, PRESENT: ARBC Executive Director Dietmar Rietschier, ARBC Executive Secretary Toni Guitrau, ARBC Legal Counsel Larry Bankston

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Parker.
2. Roll Call (see above).
3. Prayer/Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Public Comments on Agenda Items: (see page 2 – Wayne Messina)
5. Update on E. Irene Rd, Zachary, Louisiana – Natural Gas: Sondra Hayes spoke of the personal financial burden that it is causing residents on E. Irene Rd in Zachary because of the natural gas line that is soon to be disconnected due to the CRDC project utility relocations. On June 30, 2021, the Board voted to approve \$3,000 to each of the nine home owners effected. At this time, there was no motion to reconsider the Board's prior motion. The Board discussed this matter and approved a motion by Hoover second by Thompson to table this matter until the Board is presented with estimates of replacements and conversion to propane. Larry Thomas objected to the Board reconsidering. Parker called for a Special Meeting on Wednesday, July 28, 2021 at 4 pm.
6. Minutes
 - The Board unanimously approved a motion by Thompson, second by Thomas to approve the June 8, 2021 regular meeting minutes.
 - The Board unanimously approved a motion by Thompson, second by Hoover to approve the June 30, 2021 special meeting minutes
7. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Hoover, second by Thompson to review and approve the June 30, 2021 financial statements at the August 17, 2021 regular meeting.
8. Executive Director Report
 - Comite River Diversion Canal Project Report as follows:
 - a. Comite River Diversion Canal. DOTD Report: Real Estate: 81 parcels acquired and 3 under negotiations. Utility Relocations: Utility relocations are being done in anticipation of the 4 bridges, 3 drop structures, and 2 sections of channels construction. Design has been completed for LA 964, LA 19 and LA 67 bridges and it is anticipated that contracts will be issued before the end of the year.
 - b. USACE: US Hwy 61 bridge and KCS RR bridge are under construction. It is expected to complete construction by the end of the year. McHugh Rd. bridge is under construction. This is being done in conjunction with the excavation of a section of channel from McHugh Rd. to LA 19 Hwy. Baton Rouge Bayou drop-structure construction waiting for Florida Gas Pipeline relocation.
 - c. Update on Inundation Map Project: Presentation by Bob Jacobsen. Phases 1, 1B and 3 are near completion.
 - d. Floodplain Management Plan "FMP" Committee: Rietschier requested assistance from 3-4 Board members in completion of the draft FMP that is an ARBC requirement of the CRDC Project. Committee Members are as follows: Bailey, Harris, Machen, St. Pierre.

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- Rietschier brought to the Board's attention that he was approached by Wayne Messina, from the City of Central, about the fact that the Comite River has not been snagged/dredged in 50 years. The Board agreed for Rietschier to check into the possibility of applying for funding for this project. Wayne Messina spoke to the Board about this matter and thanked the Board in advance for anything it may be able to assist in to make this happen.
9. ARBC Legal Counsel: None
 10. Old Business: None
 11. New Business: None
 12. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Thomas second by Little to adjourn the Meeting at 6:30 pm.

APPROVED:

/s/ Edwin Parker, ARBC President
Date: 9/21/21

/s/ Toni B. Guitrau, Executive Secretary